



Thursday, December 2, 2004  
12:10 pm, Walter Hall

Thursdays at Noon

**NOTES FROM ABROAD**  
**Nadina Mackie Jackson and Musica Franca**

|                                          |                                      |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Nadina Mackie Jackson, Bassoonist        | Fraser Jackson, Contrabassoonist     |
| Mathieu Lussier, Bassoonist and Composer | David Swan, Pianist & Organist       |
| Catherine Carignan, Bassoonist           | aleks schürmer, Pianist and Composer |
| Paul Jenkins, Harpsichordist             |                                      |

|                                                                                                        |                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sonata #1 in F major, Les Délices de la Solitude, for bassoon and continuo<br>Allegro - Aria - Allegro | Michele Corrette (1709-1795)                                      |
| Sonata in d minor, K.213 (for bassoon alone)<br>Andante                                                | Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757)<br>adapted by M. Sweeney (b. 1958) |
| Sonata in Bflat Major, K545 (for bassoon alone)<br>Presto                                              |                                                                   |
| Sonata # 1 in D Major, Op.26, for bassoon and continuo<br>Moderato - Gavotta - Adagio - Allegro        | Joseph-Bodin de Boismortier (1689 -1755)                          |
| Prelude VI from the Well-Tempered Clavier, for bassoon alone                                           | Johann Sebastian Bach (1685- 1750)                                |
| Caprice #5 en forme de Fantaisie, for bassoon alone                                                    | Mathieu Lussier (b. 1973)                                         |
| Le Rêve de l'Opritchnik, for bassoon and piano                                                         | Mathieu Lussier                                                   |
| Seulement Alors                                                                                        | Mathieu Lussier                                                   |
| this is what happens when i care...<br>for bassoon and piano                                           | aleks schürmer (b.1981)                                           |
| Berceuse/Muzette, for bassoon and piano                                                                | aleks schürmer                                                    |
| Le Phénix, for three bassoons & continuo<br>Allegro - Adagio - Allegro                                 | Michele Corrette                                                  |

###

Next on Thursdays at Noon

**December 9, 2004**

Kevin Komisaruk, organ; Sandra Lau Martin, piano  
Music by Schoenberg, Hindemith, Scriabin and Barber

Edward Johnson Building | 80 Queen's Park | Toronto | Canada

[www.music.utoronto.ca](http://www.music.utoronto.ca)

*Peacetime is not so much the absence of war, but the presence of what Prokofiev called the "radiant upsurge", that imperative of creativity that gives wings to our best aspirations. Peacetime is thus a vigorous time when the frontiers of our imaginations demand great efforts and we work without counting the hours, collaborating with people both living and dead, inventing, interpreting, searching with inexplicable certainty for something hitherto unknown, unseen and unheard, but instantly recognizable as ours. The fact that it is elusive only sustains the search, and we crave the company of others on the same journey.*

## Biographies

**Nadina Mackie Jackson** is a solo bassoonist based in Toronto with her extended family. Her life work is to present the beautiful voice of the bassoon through the vast literature for this instrument written over the last three hundred years. Nadina released her third solo CD, *Notes from Abroad*, in June, 2004, a full-length collaboration with the pianist David Swan, featuring lyrical new works written for them along with standard virtuoso showpieces. Equally at home as a chamber musician and orchestral musician, Nadina tours and records with such groups as Violons du Roy, Aradia, The Theatre of Early Music, and Les Idées Heureuses. She spent the first ten years of her career with the Montreal Symphony, participating in dozens of records for London Decca and touring throughout the world; later she was the principal bassoon of the Canadian Opera Company Orchestra. Nadina has formed major chamber groups in Toronto and Montreal, including The Caliban Quartet of Bassoonists, which has produced two best-selling CDs, *Musica Franca* and the JacksonSwan Duo. Nadina teaches at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music and the Royal Conservatory of Music.

**Fraser Jackson** joined the Toronto Symphony as Contrabassoonist in 1990. A native of Ottawa, he holds music degrees from the Eastman School of Music and the University of Southern California, where he was one of the last students to graduate from the studio of Norman Herzberg. This past February, Fraser was invited to perform with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam on their US tour. In the spring of 2002, Fraser performed for 9 weeks with the National Symphony Orchestra of Washington, D.C., accompanying them on a 3-week tour of Europe. In July 2002, Fraser was the artist-in-residence for the 5<sup>th</sup> International Contrabassoon Festival in Park City, Utah. As a chamber musician, Fraser has performed with such groups as New Music Concerts, Amici, Festival of the Sound, Le Festival du Domaine Forget and is a regular guest of the Ottawa Chamber Music Festival. He is also a founding member of the Caliban Quartet of Bassoonists and is the group's principal arranger. Fraser teaches at the University of Toronto and the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music, where he is the head of Winds, Brass and Percussion. In the summer he teaches at the Camp Musical des Laurentides and during the year is a woodwind coach for the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra.

**Mathieu Lussier's** music includes several chamber works for woodwinds and a wide range of music for solo winds. A recent première, "Promenade à Venice" for soprano and period instrument group was received with great enthusiasm in Montréal in October, 2003, and the Caliban Quartet recently performed his "Jazz Chaconne" for CBC Radio.

*Le Rêve de l'Opritchnik* was conceived as an equal duo for Nadina and David. The poetic impulse for this work came from a novel set in sixteenth century Russia, during the reign of Ivan the Terrible. The "Opritchina" formed the personal police force of this deranged Czar, and were required to follow their acts of brutal oppression with prayer and monastic retreats. This piece starts and finishes in a mystical and oppressive atmosphere, divided by the rêverie of one of the "opritchniks" who wonders what Russia could be like without all of the terror.

*Seulement Alors* is one of four love songs that Mathieu wrote for his wife, Louise Lessard.

Based in Montréal, Mathieu frequently writes music, specially while on tour with such groups as Les Violons du Roy, Ensemble Arion, Tafelmusik, the woodwind quintet Pentaèdre, and now with his newest group, *Musica Franca*. Since 1999, Mathieu has toured in Canada, the United States, France, Belgium and Japan and recorded more than 15 CDs with different ensembles. Among these, he recorded the Concerto for oboe and bassoon in G by Vivaldi (ATMA label), and the Concerto in B flat major by Christoph Graupner (Analekta label), the latter being a recording première. His most recent recording is of the complete quartets for bassoon and string trio by Francois Devienne for ATMA.



### Seulement Alors

La nuit  
Pendant qu'ils dorment  
Pendant qu'ils rêvent  
Alors, seulement alors  
Je recommence tout doucement

Je recommence  
Doucement à devenir moi  
Seulement alors  
Mes rêves, mes peines  
Refont surface

La nuit, je rêve d'un autre monde  
De changer la mer et le monde

Mais non, non mes anges  
Je ne changerais rien

Pourquoi changerais-je le monde  
Pour risquer de perdre une seconde

L'éclat de vos beaux yeux dans la lumière  
Ni votre rire, rire qui fait fuir la poussière  
Que fait parfois surgir mon angoisse  
Poussière que recouvre mon bonheur  
Comme un nuage immuable

Alors soudain je cesse de voir  
Que mon bonheur est un miroir

Qu'il me suffit de regarder  
En moi et autour de moi

Pour trouver, tout doucement  
Pendant qu'ils dorment  
Quand ils rêvent  
Trouver tout doucement  
ma façon à moi  
D'être heureuse.

*Mathieu Lussier (2000)*

A native of the province of Quebec, **Catherine Carignan** is currently studying with Nadina at the Royal Conservatory of Music. Since arriving in Toronto a year ago, Catherine has played with such ensembles as the Montreal Symphony, the Mississauga Choral Society, the Orpheus Choir, Talisker Players, the Korean Canadian Symphony Orchestra and the Kitchener -Waterloo Chamber Orchestra. She has recently returned from a summer in Germany on a full scholarship with the Bachakademie Festival Orchestra, Stuttgart.

**aleks schürmer** is a pianist, self-taught composer and accomplished flautist who has studied with Claire Guimond, Alison Melville and Patrick Gallois. In addition to period chamber music and orchestral performance, aleks has performed as a member of a contemporary improvisation ensemble of wildly diverse instruments. Nadina and aleks first performed Three Melancholy Songs in 2001 at the University of Toronto's annual New Music Festival. Aleks won the audience choice award for that particular concert. They have most recently performed this work at the Ottawa Chamber Festival in August, 2004.

"this is what happens when i care..." was originally written for bass clarinet alone. The creative impetus to transform it into a work for bassoon and piano came from the passing of his beloved Oma (grandmother) in 2003.

The Berceuse/Muzette, an uncharacteristically serene and optimistic work based on a mother's loving song was written for Nadina in 2003.

Winner of several major competitions, including the Eckhardt-Gramatté, the Helen Hart International Competition and the CBC Talent Competition, pianist **David Swan** has appeared as a soloist in Canada, the United States and Europe. David studied with Robert Silverman at the University of British Columbia and went on to complete his Doctorate in 1986 at the University of Indiana where he studied with Valint Vazony and James Tocco. He appears frequently as a sonata partner with many instrumentalists including Rivka Golani, Robert Aitken and Patrick Gallois. A skillful improviser, David is involved in music of all time periods, particularly new music and unconventional ensembles. David is the organist at Saint Paul's Presbyterian Church in Toronto and is married to fellow pianist Meyong Cho.

**Paul Jenkins** cultivates an eclectic musical career as a keyboardist and singer. Educated in Britain and Canada, Paul is a longtime member of the Toronto Consort and has appeared with many of Canada's leading early music groups, recording and broadcasting widely. Recordings include Dorian, SRI, CTAH, Eclectra, Marquis, Naxos, and Helicon. Appearances this season include the Toronto and Windsor Symphonies, the University of Pittsburgh's Bach and Baroque Ensemble, and recitals in Berkeley. He is harpsichord soloist in Alexina Louie's "mini-opera" Justifiable Homicide in a new recording with the Esprit Orchestra. Paul organises Philipsville Summer Arts, a collaborative initiative with local and visiting artists in the Township of Rideau Lakes, Ontario, based at a stone church dating from 1865.